

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A MPEG decoder, comprising: having a controller capable of detecting ~~that detects~~ start codes in bitstreams received in said MPEG decoder, each of said start codes having a three-byte start code prefix and a one-byte start code value, said controller operable to:

(i) fetch a thirty-two bit word of a received bitstream,
(ii) determine whether a start code prefix and a start code value are properly aligned within said thirty-two bit word, and
(iii) if not properly aligned within said thirty-two bit word, determine ~~whether the~~ that the thirty-two bit word does not contain any portion of the start code prefix based solely on a determination that a least significant byte of said thirty-two bit word ~~may be~~ is not part of said start code prefix.

2. (Currently Amended) The MPEG decoder as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said controller is further operable, if the least significant byte is not part of said start code prefix, to fetch another thirty-two bit word of said received bitstream.

3. (Currently Amended) The MPEG decoder as set forth in Claim [[2]] 1 wherein said controller is further operable to (iv) determine whether said start code prefix is within the three least significant bytes of said thirty-two bit word.

4. (Currently Amended) The MPEG decoder as set forth in Claim [[2]] 1 wherein said controller is further operable to (iv) determine whether part of said start code prefix may be within the most significant byte of a next thirty-two bit word.

5. (Original) The MPEG decoder as set forth in Claim 4 wherein said controller is further operable to fetch said next thirty-two bit word of said received bitstream.

6. (Currently Amended) The MPEG decoder as set forth in Claim 4 wherein said controller is further operable to (v) determine whether part of said start code prefix is within the two least significant bytes of said thirty-two bit word and the most significant byte of said next thirty-two bit word.

7. (Currently Amended) The MPEG decoder as set forth in Claim 4 wherein said controller is further operable to (v) determine whether part of said start code prefix is within the least significant byte of said thirty-two bit word and the two most significant bytes of said next thirty-two bit word.

8. (Currently Amended) A digital video recorder capable of playing back a recorded program stream, said digital video recorder comprising:

a video processor capable of receiving an incoming program stream and converting said incoming program stream to a baseband signal capable of being displayed on a television associated with said digital video recorder;

a storage disk capable of storing program streams for time-shifted viewing; and

a MPEG decoder capable of decoding received bitstreams and generating PES packets, said MPEG decoder comprising having a controller capable of detecting that detects start codes in said received bitstreams, each of said start codes having a three-byte start code prefix and a one-byte start code value, said controller operable to:

(i) fetch a thirty-two bit word of a received bitstream,

(ii) determine whether a start code prefix and a start code value are properly aligned within said thirty-two bit word, and

(iii) if not properly aligned within said thirty-two bit word, determine whether the that the thirty-two bit word does not contain any portion of the start code prefix based solely on a determination that a least significant byte of said thirty-two bit word may be is not part of said start code prefix.

9. (Currently Amended) The digital video recorder as set forth in Claim 8 wherein said controller is further operable, if the least significant byte is not part of said start code prefix, to fetch another thirty-two bit word of said recorded received bitstream.

10. (Currently Amended) The digital video recorder as set forth in Claim [[9]]
8 wherein said controller is further operable to (iv) determine whether said start code prefix is within the three least significant bytes of said thirty-two bit word.

11. (Currently Amended) The digital video recorder as set forth in Claim [[9]]
8 wherein said controller is further operable to (iv) determine whether part of said start code prefix may be within the most significant byte of a next thirty-two bit word.

12. (Original) The digital video recorder as set forth in Claim 11 wherein said controller is further operable to fetch said next thirty-two bit word of said received bitstream.

13. (Currently Amended) The digital video recorder as set forth in Claim 11 wherein said controller is further operable to (v) determine whether part of said start code prefix is within the two least significant bytes of said thirty-two bit word and the most significant byte of said next thirty-two bit word.

14. (Currently Amended) The digital video recorder as set forth in Claim 11 wherein said controller is further operable to (v) determine whether part of said start code prefix is within the least significant byte of said thirty-two bit word and the two most significant bytes of said next thirty-two bit word.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of detecting start codes in bitstreams received in a MPEG decoder, each of said start codes having a three-byte start code prefix and a one-byte start code value, said method comprising the steps of:

- (i) fetching a thirty-two bit word of a received bitstream;
- (ii) determining whether a start code prefix and a start code value are properly aligned within said thirty-two bit word; and
- (iii) if not properly aligned within said thirty-two bit word, determining ~~whether the that~~ the thirty-two bit word does not contain any portion of the start code prefix based solely on a determination that a least significant byte of said thirty-two bit word ~~may be~~ is not part of said start code prefix.

16. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in Claim 15 further comprising the step of (iv) determining whether said start code prefix is within the three least significant bytes of said thirty-two bit word.

17. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in Claim 15 further comprising the step of (iv) determining whether part of said start code prefix may be within the most significant byte of a next thirty-two bit word.

18. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 17 further comprising the step of fetching said next thirty-two bit word of said received bitstream.

19. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in Claim 15 further comprising the step of (v) determining whether part of said start code prefix is within the two least significant bytes of said thirty-two bit word and the most significant byte of a next thirty-two bit word.

20. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in Claim 15 further comprising the step of (v) determining whether part of said start code prefix is within the least significant byte of said thirty-two bit word and the two most significant bytes of a next thirty-two bit word.